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## STATEMENT BY FCC COMMISSIONER MIGNON L. CLYBURN ON THE PASSING OF SENATOR TED STEVENS

My thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Senator Ted Stevens who lost his life in an airplane crash in Alaska on Monday night. The communications industry has lost one of its most influential leaders. Senator Stevens served in the U. S. Senate for over 40 years. As Chairman of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation during the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, he played a significant role in shaping the legislative and regulatory policy of the communications industry. Although I never had the privilege of working with Senator Stevens, I applaud him for his renowned leadership on universal service policies and his ardent support of public radio and television broadcasting. I also want to express my deepest condolences to the family and friends of the others who lost their lives in this tragic accident.